

Message Text

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12

ACTION EA-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SS-15 AID-05 DEAE-00 CIAE-00 INR-05

IO-04 JUSE-00 NSAE-00 RSC-01 SNM-02 SY-04 TRSE-00

USIA-06 NSC-05 OES-02 OMB-01 /061 W

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R 050441Z NOV 74

FM AMEMBASSY CANBERRA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 4433

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: SNAR, AS

SUBJ: PRESIDENTIAL DIRECTIVE ON NARCOTICS CONTROL ACTIVITIES

REF: STATE 233134

1. REF (A) REQUESTED A REPORT BY THE AMBASSADOR ON THE ACTIVITIES OF HIS MISSION IN SUPPORT OF THE DRUG PROGRAM.

2. REFTTEL POINTS OUT THAT THE KEY ROLE PLAYED BY AMBASSADORS IS IN CONVINCING HIGH LEVELS OF OTHER GOVERNMENTS THAT IT IS IN THEIR NATION'S INTEREST TO GIVE HIGH PRIORITY TO NARCOTICS CONTROL. THIS INVOLVES CONVINCING THEM THAT DRUG ABUSE IS NOT PRIMARILY AN AMERICAN PROBLEM BUT IS PRESENTLY OR POTENTIALLY A SERIOUS PROBLEM FOR EVERY NATION. THE PROGRESSIVE GROWTH OF BILATERAL COOPERATION BETWEEN AMERICAN ENFORCEMENT SERVICES AND THOSE OF OTHER NATIONS AND THE MORE AND MORE EFFECTIVE BATTLE AGAINST ILLICIT DRUG SMUGGLERS HAS BEEN BASED UPON THE GROWING RECOGNITION OF THIS FACT BY OTHER NATIONS.

3. IN AUSTRALIA WE ARE IN A FORTUNATE SITUATION IN THIS RESPECT. THE AUSTRALIAN GOVERNMENT IS FULLY AWARE OF THE THREAT POSED TO ITS OWN NATION BY ILLICIT DRUG SMUGGLERS AND THE GROWTH OF DRUG ABUSE AND ATTACHES A VERY HIGH PRIORITY TO AN EFFECTIVE AUSTRALIAN PROGRAM OF NARCOTIC LAW ENFORCEMENT AND CORRECTIVE

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TREATMENT FOR DRUG VICTIMS.

4. THE GOA ALSO RECOGNIZES THE GREAT IMPORTANCE OF CLOSE INTERNATIONAL COLLABORATION, BOTH ON A BILATERAL BASIS AND THROUGH THE MULTILATERAL EFFORTS OF THE UNITED NATIONS. ON BOTH COUNTS WE ENJOY VERY CLOSE RELATIONS WITH THE AUSTRALIAN AUTHORITIES. DAY TO DAY COOPERATION BETWEEN THE AUSTRALIAN NARCOTICS BUREAU AND THE USDEA AUTHORITIES IN WASHINGTON HEADQUARTERS, IN ITS REGIONAL OFFICE IN MANILA AND WITH DEA OFFICES IN OTHER CAPITALS IS CLOSE AND CONTINUOUS AND THE VOLUME OF OPERATIONAL TRAFFIC BETWEEN THE AGENCIES OF THE TWO GOVERNMENTS IS MOUNTING STEADILY. IN A BROADER SENSE THE U.S. OBJECTIVE IS TO ENCOURAGE AND SUPPORT AUSTRALIA IN ASSUMING A ROLE OF REGIONAL LEADERSHIP AMONG THE NATIONS OF THE PACIFIC REGION. THE AUSTRALIAN GOVERNMENT HAS RESPONDED WELL TO THIS ENCOURAGEMENT. IT HAS IN THE PAST SPONSORED AND ACTED AS HOST TO A REGIONAL NARCOTICS SESSION, AND ITS REPRESENTATIVES IN THE UNITED NATIONS TOOK THE LEAD IN THE PROGRAM OF THE UN AD HOC COMMITTEE ON ILLICIT DRUG ACTIVITIES IN SOUTHEAST ASIA. WE HAVE EVERY REASON TO EXPECT THAT AUSTRALIA WILL CONTINUE IN THIS POSITION OF REGIONAL LEADERSHIP, WHILE CONTINUING TO GIVE STRONG SUPPORT IN GENEVA TO THE GLOBAL PROGRAMS OF THE UN COMMISSION ON NARCOTIC DRUGS.

5. TO THIS END THE SENIOR OFFICERS OF THE MISSION MAINTAIN CLOSE CONTACTS WITH THE SENIOR NARCOTICS OFFICIALS OF THE AUSTRALIAN GOVERNMENT AS WELL AS WITH THE REGIONAL DIRECTOR OF THE DEA BASED IN MANILA. WE BELIEVE THAT THE AUSTRALIAN GOVERNMENT IS MAINTAINING AN EFFECTIVE AND FORWARD-LOOKING PROGRAM IN THIS AREA AND WE LOOK FORWARD TO A CONTINUATION OF THE EMBASSY'S CLOSE COLLABORATION WITH THE GOA AND THE DEA IN THIS PROGRAM.
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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: DRUG ABUSE, DRUG CONTROL, PROGRAMS (PROJECTS)
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 05 NOV 1974
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: MorefiRH
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1974CANBER07246
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D740316-0806
From: CANBERRA
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1974/newtext/t19741171/aaaacijg.tel
Line Count: 92
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ACTION EA
Original Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators:
Previous Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: STATE 233134
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: MorefiRH
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 18 JUN 2002
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <18 JUN 2002 by rowelle0>; APPROVED <10 DEC 2002 by MorefiRH>
Review Markings:

Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
30 JUN 2005

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: PRESIDENTIAL DIRECTIVE ON NARCOTICS CONTROL ACTIVITIES
TAGS: SNAR, AS, US
To: STATE
Type: TE
Markings: Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005